

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING A COMPUTER
SYSTEM AGAINST COMPUTER VIRUSES AND UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS

ABSTRACT

There is disclosed an apparatus and method for protecting a
5 first computer system against an intrusion such as a computer virus
or an unauthorized access. The apparatus comprises a second
computer system that is coupled to the first computer system in a
manner that permits the second computer system to receive all
10 computer communications that are directed to the first computer
system. The second computer system detects an intrusion before the
intrusion reaches the first computer system. The second computer
system deletes the intrusion by deleting the operating system
and all other data on the second computer system. After the
15 compromised operating system and data have been erased, a clean
version of the operating system and data is supplied to the second
computer system from a restoration controller within the second
computer system, or from the first computer system, or from a
backup copy of the clean version of the data.